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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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08/586,535 01/16/96 CHENG J ERSO-84-051

ESM1/0430

EXAMINER

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DUONG, T

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2515 5

DATE MAILED: 04/30/97

This is a communication from the examiner in charge of your application.
COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

OFFICE ACTION SUMMARY

Responsive to communication(s) filed on 1/13/97

This action is FINAL.

Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 O.C. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

Claim(s) 1-5 and 13-22 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

Claim(s) 1-5 and 13-22 is/are rejected.

Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is approved disapproved.

The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

All Some* None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

received.

received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.

received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

Notice of Reference Cited, PTO-892

Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

Interview Summary, PTO-413

Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES -

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The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. § 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --
(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by EP No. 0509827.

Note in Figs. 1 and 2(a)-(e) the black matrix (10), the layer of transparent common (6) and the overcoat layer (5).

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. § 103 which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Subject matter developed by another person, which qualifies as prior art only under subsection (f) or (g) of section 102 of this title, shall not preclude patentability under this section where the subject matter and the claimed invention were, at the time the invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person.

Claims 7-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over EP No. 0509827 in view JP No. 4-268533.

The JP '533 discloses in Figs. 2 and 4 that it is known to form the black matrix over the transparent electrode or the

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transparent electrode over the black matrix. Thus, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to employ a black matrix formed under the transparent electrode in the device of EP '827 because both structures provide the same function or result, i.e. to reduce the resistance of the transparent electrode.

Claims 5 and 112 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over EP 0509827 in view of Yamazaki et al '442 for the same reasons set forth in the last Office Action.

Claims 13-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over EP 0509827 in view of Yamazaki et al. '442 and Toni et al. for the same reasons set forth in the last Office Action.

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 7 and 13 have been considered but are deemed to be moot in view of the new grounds of rejection.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Tai Duong at telephone number (703) 308-4873.

TD
Duong/tj

April 19, 1997

William L. Sikes
WILLIAM L. SIKES
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
GROUP 2500